

Priorities and Initiatives

An Action Agenda for FY 2001

Given the Department's mission, the following priorities and initiatives have been identified by the Secretary to focus the Department's energies on the particular opportunities to serve America better in FY 2001:

Priorities & Initiatives	Request (\$ millions)
Moving Our Economy Into the 21st Century by Accelerating the Transition to Electronic Commerce	\$175.4 M
Ensuring All of America Benefits from Our Prosperity	\$91.7 M
Building a New Consensus on Globalization	\$69.6 M
Protecting Our Environment While Growing Our Economy by Strengthening Our Natural Resources Infrastructure	\$379.0 M
Establishing Safeguards Against Unconventional National Security Threats	\$88.8 M
Addressing Critical Construction Needs	\$37.0 M
Enhancing the U.S. Statistical Infrastructure	\$15.3 M
Assisting Public Broadcasting Digital Conversion	\$83.5 M
TOTAL	\$940.3 M

Each of these Priorities and Initiatives is summarized in the following section.

Moving Our Economy Into the 21st Century by Accelerating the Transition to Electronic Commerce

Rationale and Benefits

The Department has released two reports that show the opportunities and challenges of the New Economy. While our *Emerging Digital Economy II* report showed that expansion in the information technology industry accounted for more than one-third of our Nation's economic growth since 1995, our *Falling Through the Net III* report provided evidence that the gap between the technological "haves" and "have-nots" continues to grow for many parts of our society. This \$175.4 million e-commerce initiative focuses on ensuring that information technologies remain an engine of economic growth and that we take more steps to close the digital divide in America.

Context

This initiative has six components:

Helping More People Benefit from E-commerce

- \$50 million for the Home Internet Access Initiative. The Administration proposes \$50 million for a new grants program that would provide low-income individuals and families with the connections, training, and support necessary for full participation in today's increasingly online society. The Administration will work with private industry, local organizations, and academia to develop a program description that will be announced in the near term.
- Triple the Technology Opportunity Program to Help Close Digital Divide. To further close the gap between information "haves" and "have nots," the Department proposes to triple our investment in the Technology Opportunity Program (TOP) -- formerly known as the Telecommunications Information Infrastructure Assistance Program (TIIAP). The \$29.5 million increase in funding for this successful program will support additional community-based projects that demonstrate innovative uses of e-commerce tools and technologies that benefit the public. This increase will also allow a more equitable distribution of funds to rural and low-income, urban areas across the country.

Helping More Places Benefit from E-commerce

- New Broadband Deployment Initiative. While high-speed Internet access is coming to more and more American communities, too many areas still do not have it, meaning fewer jobs as businesses relocate to areas with Broadband. The Department's request of \$23 million for EDA public works grants will encourage the deployment of increased bandwidth in distressed urban and rural communities. This program will provide States and local areas funds to plan for and install high-speed Internet access infrastructure to help attract new business and job opportunities in our Nation's under-served communities. NTIA's \$2.0 million request will allow for research to find a widely acceptable and affordable method to integrate voice telephone and Broadband real-time services with additional Internet services. Research will help reduce the geographical and economic barriers to Broadband availability, making its application more widespread, especially in rural and disadvantaged areas.

Helping More Businesses Benefit from E-commerce

- Initiative to Help Manufacturing Firms with E-Commerce. This \$19 million initiative will help empower small and medium-sized manufacturers with the information and technical assistance they need to become e-businesses. With more and more large manufacturers using the Internet for supply chains, small and medium-sized manufacturers who are not connected will find themselves falling behind in the years ahead. The International Trade Administration's (ITA) Trade Development and US&FCS request a \$10 million export initiative targeted at small and medium sized manufacturers which would focus on the new business framework arising from e-commerce, close the gap between manufacturer export potential and actual performance, and deploy a next generation trade promotion strategy made possible by e-commerce. Building on the successful cooperative Y2K outreach model, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) will request \$9 million to work with the Small Business Administration (SBA) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to distribute 600,000 e-commerce tool kits to small and medium sized businesses.

Moving Our Economy Into the 21st Century by Accelerating the Transition to Electronic Commerce

- Initiative to Develop Interoperable E-Commerce Standards. The Department requests \$4 million to increase the utility of e-commerce applications by making them more interoperable and \$1 million to provide measurements and standards to support advanced wireless technologies. Many applications designed to make e-commerce more reliable, efficient, and secure simply do not work together; indeed, more than 100 e-commerce-related standards are currently under development, which will potentially fragment the e-commerce marketplace. These funds will allow the Department to work with industry to develop interoperable e-commerce standards, test methods, and procedures to enhance security and reliability at all levels.

Helping More Businesses Grow Through E-Commerce

- The Department's budget includes \$0.5 million for the Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) to increase its e-commerce matching opportunities for minority enterprises, and \$1.6 million for the International Trade Administration to expand its virtual trade missions to enable small and medium-sized enterprises that adopt e-commerce business models to increase exports to global markets.

Measuring the Digital Economy

- Initiative to Include E-Commerce Measurements in Economic Statistics. Decisions are only as good as the information on which they are based. Traditional categories and measures used within our national economic statistics are inconsistent and/or incompatible with e-commerce. Thus, unless its results are captured in the national statistical measures, we face the possibility of seriously underestimating productivity and growth in our economy. The importance of accuracy in these data cannot be overstated; for example, the Federal Reserve uses them to help determine whether to raise or lower interest rates, and businesses use the information every day to make production decisions. Therefore, the Department proposes \$13 million for the Department's Economics and Statistics Administration (ESA), including the Census Bureau, to ensure that e-commerce is appropriately measured and that the measurements are incorporated into national statistical measures. We also want to continue funding (\$0.4 million) for the often cited report, "Falling Through the Net," which gauges the extent to which all Americans have access to the "information age."

Using E-Commerce Tools to Administer the Department into the 21st Century

- With \$5.8 million, we will build a modern electronic infrastructure for the Department to fundamentally improve the delivery of services to Commerce customers. And, with \$25 million, we will increase efficiency and improve Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) processes with e-commerce tools.

Components

Bureau	Request (\$ millions)
EDA	\$23.0
ESA	\$3.0
ITA	\$11.6
GA	\$5.8
MBDA	\$0.5
CENSUS	\$10.0
PTO	\$25.1
NIST	\$14.0
NTIA	\$81.9
Total	\$175.4

Moving Our Economy Into the 21st Century by Accelerating the Transition to Electronic Commerce

Measures and Targets Summary

Measure	Target
NTIA	
Increase Internet accessibility and use	55% of households
EDA	
Percent of public works and economic development facilities in areas of highest distress	30%
ITA	
New to export firms (small business)	36,949
NIST	
Develop e-commerce Jump-Start kits, assessment tools and roadmap	Complete Jump-Start kits within first year
Conduct e-commerce training and distribute Jump-Start and Adoption kits	-- Distribute 600,000 toolkits within first year -- Train 600 IT field personnel per year

Ensuring All of America Benefits from Our Prosperity

Rationale and Benefits

The Department's budget includes \$28 million to help build the capacity of America's minority serving institutions, which will provide new opportunities for people to learn skills in science and engineering. The Department's budget also includes \$53.7 million to help spur economic development on tribal lands and \$10 million for the Mississippi Delta region.

Context

Expanding Commerce's Partnerships with Minority Serving Institutions -- The Administration is requesting \$28 million in new funding to be channeled through NOAA (\$17 million) and NIST (\$11 million) to address well-known and long-standing problems of developing partnerships with Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs). This will enable us to support the President's Executive Orders to provide assistance to the Nation's Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Hispanic Serving Institutions, and Tribal Colleges and Universities. The Department's twin goals in support of these Executive Orders are to expand scientific capacity at these institutions and to attract more minorities to critical science fields.

Statistics about minority graduates in science and engineering say one thing loud and clear: there are simply not enough minority scientists and engineers to meet the demand of the American economy in the 21st century. The Department of Commerce is approximately 75% science and technology-based in terms of programs, and under-representation of minorities in these programs is severe, long-standing, and well-documented. According to the Census Bureau, Blacks and Hispanics comprise some 12.8 percent and 11.6 percent of the population, respectively. However, according to the National Science Foundation, they account for only 2 percent of the scientific workforce. MSIs are the only realistic way to increase minority representation in these fields because most of the "best and the brightest" minority students matriculate at MSIs. The statistics bear this out. For example, 40% of African-American students receive undergraduate degrees at HBCUs. But 85% of black physicians, 80% of black Federal judges, 75% of black lawyers, 75% of black military officers, and 75% of black Americans who hold doctoral degrees all received undergraduate degrees at HBCUs.

This is also a problem for the economy at large and requires a visible and substantial response. But, there are no simple or quick solutions; we must invest in a sustained and strategic way. MSIs serve minority students very well. MSIs graduate half of the minorities going into science or engineering. Any reasonable strategy to increase minority graduates in science or engineering must include a central role for MSIs. With these conclusions in mind, we must face the reality that few MSIs today have the capacity to offer state-of-the-art science and engineering studies, particularly at the graduate degree level.

In NOAA, we are proposing to create three Cooperative Science Centers in oceanic, atmospheric, and environmental fields to form true partnerships with MSIs to strengthen their ability to participate in Federal grant and contract research in a competitive way. In addition, NOAA will establish a Junior year scholarship/fellowship program to support training and eventual employment of MSI students and to implement a graduate scientist program to bring graduates into NOAA. One of the most novel components of NOAA's MSI effort is the Environmental Entrepreneurship Program. This component will allow NOAA to build the capacity for minority individuals as well as minority-owned businesses to participate in contract work in environmental projects such as natural resources restoration.

NIST also would invest in MSI partnerships using the Center of Excellence model to improve access to state-of-the-art facilities and to create opportunities for minorities to produce technical publications and patents. Through the Commerce Student Fellowship Program and the NIST/NRC Postdoctoral Associateship Program, NIST will also offer an additional 49 fellowships over five years to undergraduate, graduate, doctoral, and post-doctoral students. Finally, NIST will establish a collaborative metrology training center in at least one MSI and will develop two new NIST metrology training courses.

Ensuring All of America Benefits from Our Prosperity

Promoting Native American Economic Development -- While the country continues to thrive during the longest and strongest economic expansions in its history, Native Americans are one segment of the Nation's population that has been consistently left behind. This \$53.7 million program will promote self-sufficient economic development activities like tourism and will provide the capital to encourage more collaboration between the Native communities and adjacent non-Native jurisdictions on economic development matters central to both communities.

Among the most distressed in the country, Native American communities suffer from a poverty rate twice the National average, unemployment rates eight times higher than the National average, and a median income less than two-thirds the National average. On July 7, 1999, President Clinton demonstrated his concern about this situation by visiting the Pine Ridge Reservation, home of the Oglala Sioux nation. This was the first visit by a sitting American President to a reservation since Franklin Roosevelt.

In keeping with the Administration's "New Markets" initiative, the Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration (EDA) will concentrate \$49.2 million on the provision of both basic and advanced infrastructure needs. EDA will give priority to projects that emphasize the attraction of outside capital to, and the location of basic commercial business operations in, Native American communities. In addition, workforce development, including distance learning facilities, will be given high priority. Such facilities are urgently needed for the attraction of new businesses to these communities as well as for producing trained and knowledge-based Native American employees for nearby privately-owned, off-reservation businesses.

The FY 2001 request also includes \$4.5 million for ITA to use in the following ways. First, under the Department's Global Diversity Initiative, ITA will engage in a rigorous outreach program to identify Native-American owned firms with core attributes for successful international sales (management skills, sound products, and internal resources), and to help provide them with sufficient capability to become successful exporters. Native American businesses are a constituency which traditionally under-participates in the American economy, and this sector has not prospered as much as the American economy as a whole. Second, the Native American culture and products have a continued fascination within the mainstream culture in this country, and certainly in many foreign nations. Increasing the amount of tourism which focuses on Native American culture and products will bring needed jobs and income into native American communities, which are among the most economically depressed in the Nation.

Promoting Lower Mississippi Delta Region Economic Development -- Commerce requests \$10 million to join a multi-agency effort that underscores the Administration's commitment to revitalize this area of the country. As a result of the longest peacetime economic expansion in American history, some areas of the delta region have improved, but much work remains to be done. As part of this Federal effort, Commerce will work to revitalize local economies by financing public works investments. We will build on our newly established EDA-US&FCS office in East Arkansas to help Delta businesses export more of their goods and services.

Ensuring All of America Benefits from Our Prosperity

Components

Initiative	Bureau	Request (\$ millions)
MSI	NOAA	\$17.0
	NIST	\$11.0
The Cultural Heritage Community Development Export Initiative	EDA	\$49.2
	ITA	\$4.5
Promoting Lower Mississippi Delta Region Economic Development	EDA	\$10.0
TOTAL		\$91.7

Measures and Targets Summary

Measure	Target
NOAA	
# of students graduated with advanced degrees from the Collaborative Science Centers funded at MSIs, AEOS	17 students graduated in FY 2001
# of minority students and staff supported in the Graduate Scientist Program, Student Fellowship Program, the Environmental Entrepreneurship Program and through staff / faculty exchanges	102 students and staff supported in these programs during FY 2001
NIST	
DoC Centers of Excellence - establishment of consortia with major research universities and MSIs	2
DoC Student Fellowship Program -fellowships awarded	27
Collaborative Metrology training -establishment of a metrology training center in an MSI	1
NIST/NRC Postdoctoral Fellowship Program - additional postdoctoral fellows hired annually	22
EDA	
Amount of private sector dollars	If EDA provides \$12.5M in Public Works grants in FY 2001, EDA expects that the private sector will invest about \$8M

Building a New Consensus on Globalization

Rationale and Benefits

This initiative would help build a new consensus and addresses the concerns that while most of the country has benefitted strongly from the new economy there are communities that have not yet experienced all the benefits of increased trade. This initiative promotes trade and exports, addresses the impact on many communities of changing trade patterns, strengthens enforcement of our trade laws, and would help communities get back on their feet after a sudden and severe economic dislocation.

Context

To help build a new consensus for global trade, we are requesting \$69 million. The Administration's FY 2001 budget provides \$21.2 million for stronger enforcement of our trading laws, including -- for the very first time -- the placement of compliance officers overseas. EDA's Economic Adjustment grants program will double from about \$35 million to \$70 million to address in part the impacts of changing trade patterns and \$10 million to help communities get back on their feet after a sudden and severe economic dislocation.

Trade Law Compliance -- To help build a new consensus for global trade, the Administration's FY 2001 budget provides an additional \$21.2 million for stronger enforcement of our trade laws, including a substantial increase in staff addressing Asia trade compliance issues related to China, Japan and Taiwan. And, as mentioned above, this initiative will also provide— for the very first time— the placement of compliance officers overseas.

The size of the global marketplace, coupled with the complexity of trade law issues that America faces in seeking to succeed within it, argues for a comprehensive approach to these issues by the Commerce Department. In FY 2001, the Department will devote a total of \$6 million on monitoring and enforcing trade agreement compliance with China and Japan, which combine to represent about half of the trade agreement monitoring issues facing American business. An additional \$2 million will be devoted to monitoring compliance with the EU and the rest of the world, and \$1.7 million will be used to establish a Trade Law Assistance Center.

Economic or related events in other nations may result in short- or long-term violations to trade agreements which warrant special expertise to address. In FY 2001, we will use \$6 million to establish two types of special teams: a mobile group of compliance experts who can provide "on-the-ground" support to address compliance and market access problems, and a resident group in countries which present long-term compliance challenges.

We face a number of surges in exports, and they warrant investigation, in order to determine if they derive from legitimate origins, such as changes in product demand and availability, or if they are caused by acts which violate trade agreements. To monitor these surges and to protect American business and consumers, an additional \$3.7 million is required.

The growth of the WTO, the speed at which negotiations can be conducted under it, and the number of nations participating in it, has created an increased number of negotiations which must be conducted and agreements which must be enforced. In FY 2001, this increased workload will require an additional \$1.8 million to manage.

Trade Promotion -- As one aspect of Trade Promotion, the Administration proposes to Stimulate Environmental Exports. Increasing exports of environmental technologies is a classic win-win proposition: it helps grow our economy, and it promotes a cleaner environment overseas, especially in countries with environmental threats, at the same time. In addition to the \$11.6 million increase for promoting exports discussed under "Moving our Economy into the 21st Century by Accelerating the Transition to Electronic Commerce," our request includes a \$4 million Environmental Technologies Export Initiative. ITA will work in partnership with NOAA and NIST in assisting American firms to take advantage of a rapidly growing world market -- the global market for envirotech was about \$470 billion in 1997, and is projected to reach \$600 billion by 2010. Despite America's vast experience and technology leadership in this area, we are not realizing this market's potential, and we currently export only 9% of the output of this sector, proportionally far less than our competitors.

Building a New Consensus on Globalization

Helping communities get back on their feet after an economic dislocation -- As the Administration continues to build on its record of expanding American exports around the globe, it relies on the expertise at EDA to work with communities which are adjusting to shifting international trade patterns. Under its Community Economic Adjustment program, EDA will provide \$10 million in Economic Adjustment grants to enable communities to develop long-term solutions to sudden and severe economic dislocation as a result of international trade. In addition, while we have the strongest economy in our history, there still are communities suffering from plant closings and other severe economic dislocations. As a result, EDA is requesting a doubling of its funding for the flexible Economic Adjustment grants program, from \$34.6 million in FY 2000 to \$70 million (an increase of \$35.4 million) with this FY 2001 budget. Portions of this increase will be crucial in assisting communities as they work to remain competitive in the global marketplace.

Components

Bureau	Request (\$ millions)
ITA	\$25.2
EDA	\$44.4
Total	\$69.6

Measures and Targets Summary

Measure	Target
ITA	
New-to-Export firms	36,949
Increase in dollar value of Gross Exports	\$11,000 M
EDA	
Percent of local technical assistance and economic adjustment strategy grants awarded in areas of highest distress	20%
Certification processing time for trade impacted firms	4% decrease

Protecting Our Environment While Growing Our Economy by Strengthening Our Natural Resources Infrastructure

Rationale and Benefits

This initiative includes \$379 million of new investments which would provide a vital boost to the Nation's prosperity and livability. The budget reflects the major priorities for Commerce's role in the stewardship of the sustainable development of America's natural resources.

Context

The Department's budget request for an additional \$379 million seeks to integrate sound economic growth while maintaining our mission of protecting and managing our ocean and coastal resources. This budget also builds on productive partnerships with other Federal agencies to maintain and improve satellite coverage, coverage that enables better long and short term weather and climate predictions.

This initiative proposes an additional \$376 million for NOAA to build on the Administration's strong support of environmental issues - from building an impressive record of improving predictions for severe storms, to balancing economics with the need to protect and sustain fish and marine mammals, to working with states to develop solid coastal management programs. We are also requesting \$3 million in grants for EDA to assist New England communities as fishery stocks in that region continue to recover.

The last century began with the establishment of the National Parks to conserve our lands. The Department starts this new century with a budget that will expand the conservation of the oceans and coastal resources as part of the Administration's Lands Legacy Initiative. Commerce's increase of \$266 million for the Lands Legacy Initiative includes increased support for the National Marine Sanctuaries and National Estuarine Research Reserves, and for our ocean and coastal National parks. Our request also addresses the Nation's coral reef crisis and seeks to reverse the degradation of coral reefs by implementing priority recommendations of the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force, including reducing the impacts of fishing on these sensitive and important habitats.

The Department's Lands Legacy Initiative expands our work with tribes, States, communities, and the private sector to improve protection and sustainable use of the Nation's valuable ocean and coastal resources. Under its current Coastal Zone Management program, Commerce is seeking to dramatically increase available funding for grants and technical assistance available to coastal States to address the significant and costly impacts of rapid population growth, polluted runoff, deteriorating waterfront areas, and loss of coastal habitats. Under Lands Legacy, Commerce will also establish a \$100 million Coastal Impact Assistance Fund to provide coastal States currently involved in offshore oil and gas production with additional resources needed to protect and sustainably use ocean and coastal resources. This fund will help States and local communities develop the tools to minimize the risks from coastal development including oil and gas activities.

Restoring the once-mighty Pacific salmon runs continues to be a priority, as does rebuilding Atlantic swordfish and groundfish stocks on both coasts. The initiative includes a total of \$100 million for its Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund. These funds will enhance the recovery of threatened and endangered coastal salmon by sharing the costs of the conservation actions of tribes, States, and local communities in Alaska, Washington, Oregon and California. Our initiatives recognize that success requires creative approaches and putting a premium on working with fishermen.

This budget also includes \$60 million to continue the Administration's commitment to honor the historic 1999 Pacific Salmon Agreement reached with Canada. This request will provide \$20 million each to capitalize a Northern and Southern Fund. These endowment funds, administered by the Pacific Salmon Commission, will support habitat and stock enhancement, science, and salmon management activities in both countries. The remaining \$20 million will be used to support a Vessel License Buyback program in Washington state. These investments, coupled with the proposals for Lands Legacy, will ensure that communities from coastal California to Alaska can reap the rewards of healthy fishery stocks.

Protecting Our Environment While Growing Our Economy by Strengthening Our Natural Resources Infrastructure

In addition to the increases sought for Lands Legacy and for honoring the Pacific Salmon Agreement, Commerce is proposing increases that will enable NOAA to better manage fisheries through more and better data collection while also conducting needed socio-economic analyses into the impacts of fishery regulation decisions. This increase also funds more at-sea observers to monitor foreign vessels' catch of both intended species and unwanted bycatch like sea turtles and sea birds. We also seek to establish a program to alleviate strains on over-fished fisheries. Our \$10 million Fisheries Assistance Fund request will couple buyouts with cooperative management and research activities, tailored to meet the needs of fishing communities that seek assistance. We are also requesting funds to refurbish the *ADVENTUROUS*, a surplus Navy vessel, to enable it to conduct fishery and marine mammal research in the Western Pacific.

Resources are requested to help stem the crisis of extinction of marine life and their habitat. The number of species either listed by NOAA under the Endangered Species Act or under consideration for listing is growing. NOAA is committed to preventing the extinction of at-risk marine species and restoring their habitat and ecosystems, and is requesting an increase of \$12.3 million to continue its effort to protect and conserve these living natural resources and their habitat. NOAA's approach includes establishing greater public involvement in conservation planning, creating incentives for landowners and States to protect species and their habitat in order to prevent the need to list, and entering into long-term conservation plans with landowners.

Finally, the request for safe navigation programs will enable NOAA to continue producing the first-class charts and other navigational products that mariners use to safely navigate our Nation's ports and sensitive coastal areas. These activities will further the efforts begun as part of the Year of the Ocean Initiative to improve the safety and efficiency of marine navigation within our Nation's ocean and coastal waters, while protecting the environment. Increases are requested to support the quality assurance mechanisms necessary to continue the Physical Oceanographic Real-Time Systems (PORTS), partnership of local port communities. PORTS continues to be a public private partnership success story that benefits the public by helping to promote safe, efficient marine navigation. The Department is also seeking funding to map the national shoreline, a third of which has never been accurately mapped. Shoreline mapping is critical to support our increased effort to create modern, electronic navigation charts (ENCs) and is used by States and localities to support coastal management. Finally, investing in the National Spatial Reference System will ensure the availability of the coordinate framework supporting all mapping, surveying and Global Positioning System (GPS) activities.

NOAA is also seeking to establish a new \$28 million Climate Observations and Services Initiative to provide resources critical to extending our ability to produce forecasts on a longer-time scale. This initiative will support transitioning our current research efforts and knowledge into operational systems and products. To do this, NOAA will address a number of key deficiencies in its observation and data management systems and will implement new ocean observations. NOAA will develop a nationwide climate reference network over a period of three years which will ensure NOAA's capability to monitor changes of temperature and precipitation on a long-term and bias-free basis. Resources will also be dedicated to develop and maintain adequate data management and dissemination systems to assure public and private sector timely access to important environmental data sets. NOAA will develop new forecast products which emphasize risks of high-impact weather events in the context of climate variability. NOAA will expand operations at key remote baseline observatories which are critical to the world's longest atmospheric time series, supplying the public and scientific community with information on the state and recovery of the ozone layer, global carbon dioxide, and other trace gases affecting global climate. Finally, NOAA will establish and maintain a set of core ocean observations (temperature, surface wind stress, salinity, and sea level) essential to improving our understanding and prediction of climate variability.

The strength of our economy also depends on our ability to protect and predict the environment. The Department will focus on new ways to protect the ocean -- and help those who depend on it for their livelihood and way of life -- as well as predict weather and climate.

The Natural Disaster Reduction Initiative (NDRI) is Commerce's focused effort to provide and improve weather warnings and forecasts. NOAA's FY 2001 NDRI will maintain satellite continuity and enable NOAA to maintain and upgrade systems we have in place to ensure that they keep pace with technological improvements. Our FY 2001

Protecting Our Environment While Growing Our Economy by Strengthening Our Natural Resources Infrastructure

request funds the second year of the three-year AWIPS Software Build 5.

Funds are also requested to upgrade existing major systems to avoid obsolescence. Even though NOAA is just completing the modernization program, the technology employed originated in the 1980s. We need to continually update these systems (NEXRAD, ASOS, AWIPS, and the supercomputers) to avoid wholesale replacements in the future.

The increase to maintain satellite continuity is needed to support the next series of geostationary (GOES N-Q) and both series of polar-orbiting satellites, NOAA K-N' and NPOESS.

This budget will make sure that we provide decision-makers with the best possible science on global climate change.

EDA will provide public works and planning grants to assist New England communities as fishery stocks in the region continue to recover (3.0 million).

Components

Bureau	Request (\$ millions)
NOAA	\$376.0
EDA	\$3.0
Total	\$379.0

Measures and Targets Summary

Measure	Target
Increase lead time (minutes) and accuracy (%) for severe weather warnings for tornadoes	13 minutes 70% accuracy
Percent critical area survey backlog reduced (43,000 SNM backlog) cumulative reduction	29%
By 2005, 25% fewer overfished fisheries. Currently, 98 of 286 stocks are overfished; this number would be reduced to 74.	By 2001, 1% fewer stocks of fish will be overfished
# of acres of coastal habitats restored (cumulative)	70,000 by 2001
Percent of local technical assistance and economic adjustment strategy grants awarded to areas of highest distress	25%

Establishing Safeguards Against Unconventional National Security Threats

Rationale and Benefits

To address threats to the country's national security and electronic infrastructure, the Commerce Department seeks an increase of \$89 million. Included in this amount are funds for Critical Infrastructure Protection Program and Counter-terrorism. Combating terrorism is an essential part of the President's overall defense strategy.

Context

Combating Terrorism and Weapons of Mass Destruction

To continue to combat terrorism and weapons of mass destruction, BXA requests \$11.2 million. This amount will be used to fully implement the Chemical Weapons Convention, provide staff for the international technical assistance program, and strengthen export controls related to nuclear weapons and dual-use technology. The increase will also support implementation of valid Cox report findings including re-authorizing the Export Authorization Act (EAA), obtaining Department-level approvals for exports which are of high national security significance, streamlining licensing procedures, and strengthening U.S. leadership on high performance computer export policies. In addition, the Department is also requesting \$1.6 million to address security concerns and responsibilities as outlined by current Executive Orders, Departmental regulations, and Inspector General recommendations.

Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) Program

In May 1998, the President signed Presidential Decision Directives (PDD) 62 and 63, establishing the interagency Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) Program. The Commerce Department was directly assigned three functions of CIP: the Critical Infrastructure Assurance Office, lead agency responsibility for the Information and Communications Sector and research and development responsibilities related to critical infrastructure. This program is an essential part of the President's overall defense strategy.

NIST is requesting \$60.0 million for CIP, including \$50 million to establish and operate an Institute for Information Infrastructure Protection (IIIP) to support research and development of new tools to protect the Nation's critical information infrastructures by working directly with industry, universities and government through the provision of research grants. The Institute will also assist with the coordination of agency-specific CIP research and development efforts. \$5.0 million is requested for NIST to establish a team of computer security experts to help Federal agencies protect their information systems in accordance with PDD #63. An additional \$5.0 million is included for research and development of new measurements and standards that identify and remedy vulnerabilities to natural and intentional disruptions. Other areas with Critical Infrastructure Protection budget increase requests include, BXA, \$3.5 million; NOAA, \$4.0 million; PTO, \$2.2 million; and NTIA, \$6.3 million.

Establishing Safeguards Against Unconventional National Security Threats

Components

Bureau	Request (\$ millions)
Combatting Terrorism and Weapons of Mass Destruction	
Departmental Management	\$1.6
BXA	\$11.2
Subtotal	\$12.8
Critical Infrastructure Protection	
BXA	\$3.5
NOAA	\$4.0
PTO	\$2.2
NIST	\$60.0
NTIA	\$6.3
Subtotal	\$76.0
Total	\$88.8

Establishing Safeguards Against Unconventional National Security Threats

Measures and Targets Summary

Measure	Target
B X A	
Restructure export controls for the 21st century	
# of high risk transactions deterred	512
# of licensing decisions	12,000
Maintain a fully effective law enforcement program	
# of enforcement outreach visits	900
# of investigations completed	1,300
P T O	
Provide PTO's business areas with secure communications network-wide and reduce the threat of hacking and exploitation of captured electronic data	T B D
Reliable encryption and authentication services which will ultimately reduce patent cycle time	T B D
N T I A	
Identification of threats to the Nation's infrastructure	T B D
Enhancement of the U.S. War Plans Emergency database maintained by the Office of Spectrum Management	T B D
Assistance to Federal, State and local governments in protection of their NS/EP communications	T B D
Vulnerability awareness and education material for publication, speeches presentations and demonstrations	T B D
N I S T	
Activity metrics related to establishing the IIIP - operations plan, staffing, oversight and advisory boards, etc.	Successful establishment of the IIIP
Achieve Critical Infrastructure protection R&D project milestones and disseminate findings in the areas of cryptography, security management, best security practices, and security of supervisory control systems.	Implement Public Key Infrastructure prototype; publish one model security management protection profile per year; publish one technical guideline and one technical report per year on best security practices; expand BACnet protocol; establish enhanced Virtual Cybernetic Building testbed; develop test methods to measure the effectiveness of manufacturing supervisory control system security features
Successfully complete key activities for Critical Infrastructure Protection Expert Review Team	Consult with Federal agencies on sensitive and critical systems; review agency CIP plans for key systems; conduct vulnerability assessments of Federal agency IT systems; assist in reviewing implemented security measures; issue best practice technical guidelines; technical reports, and other guidance; conduct computer intrusion drills; provide technical support for emergency security fixes.

Addressing Critical Construction Needs

Rationale and Benefits

This \$37 million initiative addresses critical construction needs at the Census Bureau, NOAA, and NIST.

Context

To help resolve the Census Bureau's environmental and structural problems at its Suitland, Maryland facilities, we are requesting \$3.2 million for bureau-specific space planning requirements in support of the GSA-sponsored renovation scheduled to begin in 2003.

While not included in the \$37 million initiative, we are requesting advanced appropriations of \$18.2 million, beginning in FY 2002, to address NOAA's environmental and structural problems at its Suitland, Maryland facilities. These facilities suffer from bacterial water contamination and asbestos, as well as outdated, almost 60-year old, building designs. Since May of this year, and for the foreseeable future, bottled water has been provided at the Suitland facilities because of the presence of fecal coliform bacteria and heavy metals. These funds will provide for above-standard-cost items and move-in expenses at NOAA's satellite operations facility that GSA will construct on this campus, scheduled to begin in 2002.

In addition to Suitland, we are requesting: \$4.6 million for the reinforcement of the bluffs under our fisheries science center in La Jolla, California, \$3 million to alleviate the overcrowding and obsolescence of the facility in Norman, Oklahoma, \$11 million for NOAA's marine sanctuaries and estuaries reserves, \$1 million for the Juneau, Alaska laboratory, and \$9.5 million for NWS's Weather Forecast Offices and other construction needs. NIST is requesting \$4.5 million to design a new primary electrical service at the NIST Boulder, Colorado facility and to address the backlog of safety, capacity, maintenance, and major repair projects at both the Gaithersburg, Maryland and Boulder facilities.

Components

Bureau	Request (\$ millions)
CENSUS	\$3.2
NOAA	\$29.3
NIST	\$4.5
Total	\$37.0

Measures and Targets Summary

Measure	Target
CENSUS	TBD
NOAA	TBD
NIST	TBD

Enhancing the U.S. Statistical Infrastructure

Rationale and Benefits

Commerce is a premier statistical agency. This FY 2001 initiative, totaling \$15.3 million, will improve the information crucial to decision-making by businesses and policy makers. We must guarantee that our Federal statistics can meet the demands policy makers have for data that accurately reflects the "real world."

Context

In FY 2001, there are four statistical areas on which the Department will be focusing. The first area is the completion of an accurate Decennial Census. This is an integral part of the Nation's Statistical Infrastructure. The second area is e-commerce as described earlier. This initiative focuses on the other key demographic and economic data that decision makers must have. The third area is the American Community survey where an increase of \$3.4 million in FY 2001 will eventually allow for the elimination of the Decennial Census long-form. The fourth area is a \$6.1 million request to measure the economic well-being of the Nation.

Other statistical improvements include:

- Demographic Survey Sample Redesign (\$3.7 million) -- Demographic survey samples improves the quality, accuracy and confidence in major Federal socioeconomic indicators by updating the methodology for selecting survey samples and incorporating the results of the Decennial Census into major household surveys.
- Improved Export Data -- Census will improve the capture of low level (less than \$2,500) undeclared, exports (\$1.4 million) and ITA will improve trade statistics at low levels of geographic detail (State, local and regional levels) (\$0.7 million)

Components

Bureau	Request (\$ millions)
CENSUS	\$14.6
ITA	\$0.7
Total	\$15.3

Enhancing the U.S. Statistical Infrastructure

Measures and Targets Summary

Measure	Target
CENSUS	
Meet all principal economic indicator published release dates on time	100% on time
Percent of household surveys attaining 100 percent of reliability specifications	100%
Percent of household surveys with initial response rates greater than 90 percent	100%
Reduce time between data collection and data release for selected household surveys	5% annual decrease
ITA	
Number of countries monitored	87
Reports analyzing impact on U.S. industry of changes in U.S. barriers	4,000

Assisting Public Broadcasting Digital Conversion

Rationale and Benefits

This initiative is part of the President's program to ensure that the benefits of public broadcasting continue and that the stations can meet the FY 2003 digital conversion target.

Context

Congressional mandates require Public Broadcasting Stations to convert from analog to digital transmission by 2003. NTIA is requesting an \$84 million increase for competitive grants to assist public broadcasting stations transitioning from analog to digital transmission. Special consideration will be given to stations in underserved markets and to demonstration projects that address the special needs and service barriers encountered in the underserved markets.

Components

Bureau	Request (\$ millions)
NTIA	\$83.5
Total	\$83.5

Measures and Targets Summary

Measure	Target
Assist in maintaining and extending the services of public broadcasting and telecommunications facilities, including digital broadcasting applications in the public interest	TBD
Number of digital conversion projects awarded	TBD
Percentage of public stations that have digital transmission capability	TBD
Universal public television service will continue in rural and disadvantaged communities	TBD

